

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as shown below:

The invention relates to a method and a system for operating a shelf in a commissioning system, comprising a shelf [[(1)]] and a storage and retrieval unit [[(2)]] associated therewith for storing and retrieving containers [[(3)]], trays or the like in or from the shelf. A height range of the shelf [[(1)]] comprising a plurality of superimposed shelf planes ~~(a, b, c, d)~~ can be operated as an autonomous shelf unit ~~(I, II, III or IV)~~ via at least one mechanically coupled longitudinally adjustable storage and retrieval unit [[(2)]] and at least two autonomous shelf units are provided for a single shelf. The invention is characterized in that the storage and retrieval unit [[(2)]] is displaced from a shelf unit ~~(I, II, III or IV)~~ to another shelf unit ~~(II, III, IV or I, III, IV or I, II, IV or I, H, III)~~ of the same shelf [[(1)]] or of another shelf [[(1')]], preferably to another shelf unit which is not yet provided with a storage and retrieval unit of the same kind.